

# Minutes: \_\_\_\_\_ Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 4 June 4, 2009 Board Meeting

## 1. OPEN MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND AGENDA

The June board meeting was opened at 10:10 A.M. CDT, June 4, 2009 in the district offices, Colby, KS by President Scott Maurath.

Board members present for some or all of the meeting were:

Brent Rogers	Scott Maurath	Monty Biggs
Roger Zwegardt	Mitch Baalman	Dave Rietcheck

Board Members absent were: Jon Friesen, Shane Mann, Jeff Deeds, Lon Frahm and Doug David

Others present for some or all of the meeting were: Wayne Bossert, Ray Luhman, Dan Simmering – GMD 4 staff; and Scott Voss and David Means – DWR.

President called for any additions, corrections or deletions from the published agenda. There were none.

## 2. CONSENT AGENDA

*Brent Rogers moved for approval of the consent agenda including: 1) the April 2, 2009 minutes as presented; and 2) receipt of the April and May, 2009 financial reports including the April, 2009 expenditures totaling \$30,309.57 and the May, 2009 expenditures totaling \$25,087.36. Mitch Baalman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

## 3. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager reported on 6 items as follows (as contained in the board packet): AWEP Proposal update; WTAP Program update; Alliance process update; E-transferring advanced copies of applications by DWR; update on the IGUCA clarification activity this legislative session; and a modeling update. There were several questions regarding the WTAP program which were answered. Regarding the Alliance process, there was much discussion – particularly over the Oberlin reverse osmosis (RO) proposal.

## 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

**a. Meter Monitoring Program Discussion:** Staff asked if the board was still comfortable with the MOU language regarding a monitoring effort of 125 randomly selected wells each year. During discussion a question was asked about enforcement. All enforcement would be DWR's responsibility and would presumably start with a non-compliance order. Following discussion, it was decided to continue with the MOU process and monitor DWR's enforcement efforts. No motion made.

**b. Management Program Issues Update and Discussion:** Manager reported that of the seven issues chosen for inclusion in the next management program, four have had some work done on them as follows: 1) Public interest definition: have begun dialog with DWR on some draft wording. Dialog is continuing; 2) Variable assessment rates: Manager has asked for a KGMDA meeting to further discuss and craft a suitable statutory amendment that all 5 GMD's can support; 3) Mandated multi-year allocation for irrigation: staff has a first draft of a GMD 4 regulation that

would authorize the board to require all water rights in a HPA to convert to multi-year flex accounts IF the public comment process (Task 4) was completed and such a recommendation was made by the participants; and 4) More restrictions on adding acres: staff has also crafted an initial draft of a GMD 4 regulation that would define “base acres” as the lesser of the base acres calculated using DWR’s KAR 5-5-11 (a) and a recent historic irrigated acres value essentially being the most acres irrigated in any year between 2002 and 2008.

Following discussion and questions, the board directed staff to continue on all 4 of these paths so long as any final products are reviewed and approved by the board first. No motion made.

**6. DWR REPORT**

Scott Voss reported that the Kansas Geological Survey is working on an index well study expansion to place monitoring equipment (data loggers) in multiple wells surrounding the dedicated index wells. For NW Kansas they want to add 12 wells around the Friesen index well. Scott indicated that he can only locate 4 suitable well locations for data loggers at this time. Scott indicated that any involvement by GMD 4 would likely be welcomed. At this time DWR data loggers are in the plans for use. David Means reported that DWR is about 2 weeks from completing the meter order inspections within GMD 4.

**7. OPEN SESSION - PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

None.

**8. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND CONSIDER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

July - July 23, 2009.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

*With no other business and no objections, President Maurath declared the June 4, 2009 board meeting adjourned at 11:50 A.M., CDT, June 4, 2009.*

Respectfully submitted:

(Approved & Signed)

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Jeff Deeds, Secretary